

LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF IDAHO
Sixty-first Legislature First Regular Session - 2011

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 181, As Amended

BY BUSINESS COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO THE IDAHO SMALL BUSINESS FEDERAL FUNDING ASSISTANCE ACT; PROVIDING LEGISLATIVE INTENT AND A SHORT TITLE; AMENDING CHAPTER 47, TITLE 67, IDAHO CODE, BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION 67-4723A, IDAHO CODE, TO CREATE THE IDAHO SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE FUND, TO PROVIDE FOR THE USE OF MONEYS IN SUCH FUND, TO PROVIDE THAT THE IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE SHALL ADMINISTER SUCH FUND, TO DEFINE TERMS, TO PROVIDE A PROGRAM FOR THE AWARDING OF REIMBURSEMENT GRANTS TO COMPANIES SEEKING FEDERAL FUNDING AND TO PROVIDE CRITERIA FOR THE AWARDING OF FUNDING.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE INTENT -- SHORT TITLE. The Legislature intends that an incentive for Idaho companies to commit private resources toward the process of attracting federal grants shall be provided through state grants that reimburse up to four thousand dollars. Small businesses that are reimbursed for expenses to submit a grant proposal which results in winning a small federal grant award will agree to reimburse the state grant fund, and thereby help replenish the fund. Companies which win federal awards in excess of two hundred fifty thousand dollars will agree to reimburse the fund for up to five times the amount of their state grant. This act shall be administered by the Idaho Department of Commerce. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Idaho Small Business Federal Funding Assistance Act."

SECTION 2. That Chapter 47, Title 67, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a NEW SECTION, to be known and designated as Section 67-4723A, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:

67-4723A. IDAHO SMALL BUSINESS FEDERAL FUNDING ASSISTANCE ACT -- FUND CREATED. (1) There is hereby created in the state treasury the Idaho small business assistance fund to which shall be credited all moneys that may be appropriated, apportioned, allocated, and paid back to the fund, including grants, federal moneys, donations, gifts, funds from any other source or otherwise provided by law. The moneys in the fund shall be used to reimburse Idaho small businesses for costs incurred in the process of developing and submitting federal grant proposals and to compete for awards. The Idaho department of commerce shall administer the fund.

(2) As used in this section:

(a) "Federal funding" means grants available to for-profit businesses as awarded by federal agencies through small business innovative research grants, small business technology transfer research grants, broad area announcements or other grant programs.

(b) "Small business" means an Idaho for-profit company with five hundred (500) or fewer employees.

1 (c) "State grants" means a grant award of up to four thousand dollars
2 (\$4,000) limited exclusively to the reimbursement of claimable ex-
3 penses incurred by an Idaho small business pursuant to the process of
4 competing for federal funding awards.

5 (3) The department of commerce shall administer a program of state
6 grants to assist and incentivize new, emerging, and expanding Idaho small,
7 for-profit businesses in the development of federal funding proposals that
8 lead to the development of commercial products or services.

9 (4) The department of commerce shall administer this program in such a
10 way as to avoid favoritism of any particular enterprise and to maximize the
11 public purposes of increasing the number of submitted proposals from Idaho
12 small businesses and increasing the number of grant awards to these busi-
13 nesses. Particular attention shall be paid to the encouragement of compa-
14 nies that have not competed for federal funding awards in the past.